

West Hartford Substance Abuse Prevention Commission (SAPC)
Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2016

Attendees: Joanna Curry-Sartori, Cyndi Brown, Pat Tyler, Roszena Haskins, Leo Negron, Roszena Haskins, Shari Cantor, Helen Rubino-Turco, Judy Kulakofsky

- The process for requesting volunteers and appointing new voting members of the Commission was been informed by the advice of Garmon Newsom, Town of WH Corporate Counsel.
- RE Chair for SAPC. Once the new commission is formed, they will discuss the process to appoint a new chair. Cyndi Brown, who has offered to serve as chair of Commission, was appointed to the commission in 2010 and therefore has served 6 years meaning she has reached her term limit (2 three yr terms). She will continue on Commission as a non-voting member representing Conard PTO and COC.
- Requests for volunteers to serve as voting members were sent to West Hartford Community via:
 - West Hartford listserv and newspapers, SAPC distribution list, West Hartford Community Network, PTO's, School Counselors, Lead by Example students

Considerations Discussed:

- Non-voting members do not have limitations on their terms and so it was determined that it was not necessary to discuss who was appointed to these positions.
- At least seven members shall be electors of the Town of WH (voting residents)
- Consideration was given to having representation that will address the needs of the whole community: students, the elderly, adults, populations diverse in ethnicity, socio/economic levels, etc. There has been concern in the past that the commission focused too narrowly on high school students.
- The commission is meant to have 15 voting members and 1/3 will rotate each year. As this process has not formally happened since 2010, volunteers will be assigned to 1, 2 and 3 year terms.

- Students: Lead by Example is in the process of re-forming in the schools and expects to find interested students. Two places will be held for students to be appointed to the commission.
- PTO: Info has been sent to PTO members requesting volunteers. A place will be held for a PTO member to be appointed to the commission.
- Hope Works is no longer in business. Past meeting notes reflect that there would be representation from The Bridge Family Center and/or Hope Works. As Hope Works is no longer in business and the Bridge is represented on the commission, the slot reserved for Hope Works will be allocated for other representation.
- School Counselors: We have 1 high school counselor (from independent school K/O) and 1 middle school rep (WHPS). It was also noted that there are a number of other trained counselors/ therapists who have volunteered. No further positions will be reserved for school counselors.
- The group agreed that it would be helpful to have a member from the community who is of another medical specialty (pharmacist, dentist, pain management, etc.), a member of the clergy, a lawyer, and/ or a member of the media. A space was reserved to be filled by such an individual.
- Volunteers' individual strengths and potential contributions were considered. It was discussed that it is important that the members of the commission be good at collaborating and working together respectfully toward common purpose.
- The group will wait one year to consider individuals who may be currently involved in complicating legal matters.
- In keeping with the town by-laws, political affiliation of the volunteers was tallied to ensure that no more than 2/3 is from any one party. The count showed that 7 are registered democrats, 1 is a registered republican, and 3 said that they are unaffiliated.
- The 2010 SAPC members decided to recommend the following names to the town council to consider for appointment to the SAPC:
 1. David Eppner
 2. Benjamin Grippo
 3. Joanna Curry-Sartori
 4. Ed D'Addio
 5. Chastity Rodriguez

6. Jamahl Hines
7. Jean Schensul
8. Jaclyn Dulude
9. Grace Johnson
10. Sagar Patel
11. Amal Ali
12. Student- Vacant
13. Student – Vacant
14. PTO- Vacant
15. Other - Vacant

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Curry-Sartori, LMFT

October, 2016

